

10 ~~38~~ (Amended) The method of Claim ~~34~~⁹, wherein the thermal blanket
[further includes a non-inflatable section formed in a portion of the periphery of the] is
a self-erecting thermal blanket, the method further comprising the step[s] of:
[the non-inflatable section forming a non-inflatable foot drape in the thermal
blanket during the inflating step; and
using the non-inflatable foot drape, trapping and retaining the heat under the
thermal blanket during the exhausting step]
the inflatable thermal blanket self-erecting in the step of inflating.

REMARKS

Claims 26-31 and 33-35 have been amended. Claims 26-35 remain in the application.

A Petition for Extension of Time for Three Months accompanies this paper, together with a check to cover the requested extension.

A Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 5,184,612 is forwarded herewith, together with a check to cover the required terminal disclaimer fee.

An Information Disclosure Statement with the required fee also accompanies this paper.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 26-33 for obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 5,184, 612. The Terminal Disclaimer accompanying this paper obviates the basis for this rejection and the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove it.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 34 for being anticipated by Augustine '188. Claim 34 has been amended to incorporate limitations respecting a non-inflatable extension for covering the feet. The Augustine '188 patent includes no such element and therefore does not anticipate Claim 34 as amended. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

In view of the amendments and remarks made in this paper and further in view of the Terminal Disclaimer accompanying this paper, it is submitted that all claims in this application are allowable over the prior art that is of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terrance A. Meador".

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